

## House Resolution 1695

By: Representatives Drenner of the 86<sup>th</sup>, Henson of the 87<sup>th</sup>, Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Watson of the 91<sup>st</sup>, Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending DeKalb County, its commissioners, and citizens for adopting and  
2 implementing a 75 foot stream buffer protection as part of the environmental protection  
3 section of DeKalb County's Land Development Ordinance; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the vote by the DeKalb County Commissioners for this most far reaching of all  
5 environmental legislation passed in years was unanimous; and

6 WHEREAS, all citizens need to be concerned about stream buffers because stream banks  
7 provide important functions to the rivers and communities; and

8 WHEREAS, stream buffers provide many benefits such as: slowing the velocity of  
9 storm-water runoff, which helps to prevent downstream flooding; assimilating polluted  
10 storm-water runoff from paved streets, parking lots, restaurants, and shopping centers;  
11 filtering other types of human and animal waste running off hard surfaces; filtering sediment  
12 and pollution from runoff before it reaches our streams; and providing crucial habitat for  
13 plant life, amphibians, and other wildlife; and

14 WHEREAS, it is thought by many scientists that a stream buffer should be a minimum of 75  
15 feet to do a satisfactory job of removing pollutants before they reach a stream; and

16 WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commissioners in their wisdom have recognized and  
17 implemented the need for this minimum buffer while elsewhere in Georgia the minimum  
18 buffer remains only narrow 25 or 50 feet strips of land; and

19 WHEREAS, the action taken in DeKalb County to protect this state's streams will help to  
20 increase water quality for everyone.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
2 the members of this body commend DeKalb County, its commissioners, and citizens for  
3 adopting and implementing a 75 foot stream buffer to protect Georgia's streams.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
5 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Commissioners of  
6 DeKalb County.